

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1(original). A method of fastening a mold shell with a mold seat, said method comprising the following steps of:

- (a) forming a metal shell on a model by electrocasting;
- (b) providing the metal shell with one or more columnar bodies adhered thereto;
- (c) thickening the metal shell by electrocasting so as to embed the base of each of the columnar bodies in the thickened metal shell;
- (d) separating the metal shell from the model;
- (e) providing the metal shell with a metal layer of a thickness by arc spraying; and
- (f) joining the metal shell with a mold seat in such a manner that one or more through holes of the mold seat are aligned with the columnar bodies.

2(original). The method as defined in claim 1, wherein the columnar bodies of the step (b) are provided with a threaded hole.

3(original). The method as defined in claim 2, wherein the step (f) involves the use of one or more bolts whereby the bolts are engaged with the threaded holes of the columnar bodies via the through holes of the mold seat.

4(original). The method as defined in claim 1 further comprising forming a threaded hole in each of the columnar bodies after the step (b) and before the step (f).

5(original). The method as defined in claim 4, wherein the metal shell and the metal seat are fastened together in the step (f) by one or more bolts which are engaged with the threaded holes of the columnar bodies via the through holes of the mold seat.

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6(original). The method as defined in claim 1, wherein each of the columnar bodies of the step (b) is a threaded rod.

7(currently amended). The method as defined in claim ~~[[1]]~~ 6 further comprising a step (d₁) after the step (d), with the step d₁) involving the use of a nut to engage the threaded rod whereby the nut is greater in height than the threaded rod.

8(original). The method as defined in claim 7, wherein the metal shell is fastened with the mold seat by one or more bolts which are respectively engaged with the nuts via the through holes of the mold seat.

9(original). The method as defined in claim 1 further comprising a step (e₁) after the step (d), with the step (e₁) involving forming an interface metal layer on the metal shell by arc spraying whereby the interface metal layer is used to enhance the bonding of the metal shell and the metal layer referred to in the step (e).